



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 811

H.P. 500

House of Representatives, February 21, 2023

An Act to Create a Restricted Senior Lobster and Crab Fishing License

Reference to the Committee on Marine Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HENDERSON of Rumford, NESS of Fryeburg, SWALLOW of Houlton, WHITE of Guilford.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§1, ¶C-1** is enacted to read:

3 C-1. Restricted senior lobster and crab fishing license;

4 **Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 568, §1, is further
5 amended to read:

6 **2. Licensed activity.** The holder of a Class I, Class II, Class III, restricted senior,
7 apprentice or student lobster and crab fishing license may fish for, take, possess, ship or
8 transport within the State lobsters or crabs and sell lobsters or crabs the license holder has
9 taken. The license does not authorize the license holder to remove lobster meat from the
10 shell or to take, possess, transport or ship lobster parts or meat. The holder of a Class II or
11 Class III license is liable for the licensed activities under this subsection of all unlicensed
12 crew members assisting that licensee.

13 **Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§3-A, ¶C-1** is enacted to read:

14 C-1. A restricted senior lobster and crab fishing license authorizes the license holder
15 to engage in the licensed activities under subsection 2. A restricted senior lobster and
16 crab fishing license may be issued only to a person who, at the time of issuance, is 70
17 years of age or older and has previously held a Class I, Class II or Class III license for
18 a period of at least 5 consecutive years. A person issued a restricted senior lobster and
19 crab fishing license may not submerge more than 100 lobster traps at any one time in
20 the coastal waters of the State. At the time a restricted senior lobster and crab fishing
21 license is issued or renewed, the applicant or license holder shall declare the vessel that
22 will be used to conduct lobster and crab fishing activities under that license. The
23 license holder's trap tags are allocated to that vessel, pursuant to the license. The
24 department is not authorized to issue more than 100 restricted senior trap tags to the
25 declared vessel, regardless of the number of restricted senior license holders fishing
26 from that vessel.

27 **Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§5-F** is enacted to read:

28 **5-F. Restricted senior eligibility.** A restricted senior lobster and crab fishing license
29 may be issued to a person 70 years of age or older only if the person has previously held a
30 Class I, Class II or Class III license for a period of at least 5 consecutive years.

31 **Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§7-B, ¶Q**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 575, §1, is
32 further amended to read:

33 Q. For a noncommercial lobster and crab fishing license, \$60, except as provided in
34 subsection 7-D; and

35 **Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§7-B, ¶R**, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 284, Pt. EEEEE,
36 §3, is amended to read:

37 R. For a nonresident lobster and crab landing permit, \$590.25-; and

38 **Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §6421, sub-§7-B, ¶S** is enacted to read:

39 S. For a restricted senior lobster and crab fishing license, \$126.

